AMERICAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT HEALTH CENTER
INFLUENZA VACCINE CONSENT FORM

Important information about 2013-2014 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

What is the Flu?
Influenza (flu) is a respiratory disease caused by the influenza virus. The types or strains of influenza virus that cause illness may change from year to year, or even within the same year. People who get the flu may have fever, chills, headache, dry cough, muscle aches, and may be sick for several days to a week or more. Most people recover completely. However, for some people, flu may be especially severe, and pneumonia or other complications, including death, may occur.

Flu Vaccine
The regular flu vaccine contains types of inactivated influenza virus selected by the U.S. Public Health Service and the Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The types of virus included are those that have most recently been found to cause influenza. The vaccine will not give you the flu because it is an inactivated virus vaccine. As with any vaccine, flu vaccine may not protect 100% of all susceptible individuals.

The 2013-2014 vaccine provides protection against A/H1N1 (pandemic) influenza and two other influenza viruses – influenza A/H3N2 and influenza B. It will not prevent illness caused by other viruses.

Risks & Possible Side Effects
Influenza vaccine generally causes only mild side effects that occur at low frequency. Most commonly, these reactions may include: a sore or tender arm where the injection was given, fever, chills, headache, or muscle aches. These side effects usually last only 24 to 48 hours. Most people who receive the vaccine either have no reaction or only mild reactions. There is a possibility, as with any vaccine or drug, that an allergic or other serious reaction, or even death, could occur. Also, medical events completely unrelated to the vaccine may occur coincidentally following vaccination.

Unlike the 1976 swine influenza vaccine, flu vaccines used since then have not been clearly connected with an increased frequency of Guillain-Barre syndrome, which is associated with paralysis. However, it is still recommended that you speak with your doctor if you have previously been diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome.

Special Notice - Vaccination is generally not recommended for the following people:
1. People allergic to eggs or egg products
2. People sensitive to thimerosal (a preservative that contains mercury)
3. People with a fever, or active respiratory or other infection or illnesses
4. People who have had a serious reaction to a flu shot

If you have any of the above, please notify the staff. If you have any questions, please ask now or check with your medical provider or the health department before receiving the vaccine. Speak with a doctor if you are pregnant or nursing.

I have read the above information about influenza and influenza vaccine, and I have had a chance to ask questions.
I understand the benefits and risks of influenza vaccination and request that the vaccine be given to me, or the person named below for whom I am authorized to sign.

Printed Name _____ **ID #** _____ **Date of Birth** _____ **Local Phone #** _____

Signature _____ **Today's Date** _____ **I am a: Student Faculty/ Staff**

Vaccination Site	Administrator's Initials	Affix Sticker Here:
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